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FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

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L A T E C A B L E S

Rumania 1938 grain crops estimated as follows, with 1937 comparisons in parentheses: Wheat 183,937,000 bushels (138,159,000), rye 26,376,000 (17,759,000), barley 46,251,000 (42,129,000), oats 38,718,000 bushels (35,328,000). (International Institute of Agriculture, Rome.)

Northern Ireland 1938 acreage of specified crops reported as follows, with 1937 comparisons in parentheses: Wheat 5,500 acres (4,000), oats 297,000 (257,000), barley 3,000 (3,000), potatoes 123,000 acres (125,000). (London office, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.)

Italy 1938 grain production estimated as follows, with 1937 figures in parentheses: Rye 5,315,000 bushels (5,701,000), barley 11,299,000 (10,727,000), oats 42,301,000 bushels (42,591,000). (International Institute of Agriculture, Rome.)

Harvesting of wheat Canadian Prairie Provinces delayed by week of unsettled showery weather, and few weeks of clear warm weather needed throughout western areas. Light frosts reported but damage slight. Nearly all wheat cut in Manitoba; considerable variation in yields indicated, with average falling below expectations and last year. In Saskatchewan bulk of wheat cut; wide range of yields resulted from rust, drought, and grasshopper damage and quality of wheat lower than that of Manitoba and Alberta. Prospects in Alberta, where little wheat cut as yet, appear promising provided harvesting takes place without rain or frost. (Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa.)

Northern Brazil cotton crop, final estimate for 1937-38, placed at 707,594 bales of 478 pounds compared with 685,741 bales produced in 1936-37. (American Consulate, Rio de Janeiro.)

NOTICE: The supplement, "United States Foreign Trade in Agricultural Products, 1937-38," mentioned in the footnote on page 92 of the August 13 issue is now ready for distribution.

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Polish Government moves to aid producers and exporters of grain

The production of grain in Poland this year is expected to exceed the average harvest of 1933-1937 by about 10 percent, according to preliminary estimates reported to the Berlin office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by United States Consul M. E. Malige at Warsaw. Such an increase indicates an exportable surplus of about 992,000 short tons of grain. The Government authorities, fearing a sharp decline of domestic grain prices after the harvest, have adopted measures designed not only to control internal markets but also to encourage exports. Beginning August 1, export bounties in the form of customs certificates that may be used in the payment of import duties were reestablished. These amount to 4 zlote per 100 kilograms (34 cents per 100 pounds) on exports of the four principal grains, rye, wheat, barley, and oats, and also apply at varying rates to such products as flour, groats, beans, oleaginous seed, and malt. Credits are to be extended by the State Land Bank for special crop-financing purposes to farmers, maltsters, and oil mills; and commercial credits are to be granted to grain-trading companies to facilitate grain purchases. The Ministry of Finance is authorized to suspend the collection of taxes from farmers during the sowing and harvesting periods, and purchasing activities by the State are to be expanded to increase grain reserves and army stocks. Negotiations are also under way whereby grain exports are expected to be made to Germany, France, and Italy under clearing agreements with those countries.

To meet the problem of maintaining grain prices at a level sufficiently high to provide a profit to the producers, an emergency decree-law was passed authorizing the levy of a processing tax on flour and groats sold on the domestic market. This is not to exceed 3 zlote per 100 kilograms (26 cents per 100 pounds) and is to be collected from all mills if the price of rye drops below 20 zlote per 100 kilograms (about 96 cents per bushel). The proceeds of the tax are to be used by the Minister of Agriculture to aid in financing the campaign for grain exports.

Manchurian wheat prospects unfavorable

Weather conditions in North Manchuria during the month ended August 15 were quite unfavorable for the 1938 wheat crop, according to information furnished the Shanghai office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics by United States Consul G.R. Merrell at Harbin. Not only the wheat crop in North Manchuria, which represents about 90 percent of the total Manchurian wheat production, but other grains were also adversely affected by excessive rains, insect damage, and rust. Yields of wheat probably will be materially reduced and quality low. With a small carry-over from the 1937 wheat crop, which for all Manchuria amounted to 38,015,000 bushels, a grain shortage is feared, and a decree was promulgated by the Provincial government at Harbin prohibiting the shipment of wheat from the Province. The only mill operating in late July was running at reduced capacity. Flour imports into Manchuria during January-March totaled 561,000 barrels, of which 385,000

barrels originated in Japan, as compared with a total of 249,000 barrels in the corresponding period of 1937, of which Japan supplied 171,000 barrels.

Japanese wheat imports at low level

Imports of wheat into Japan during 1937-38 (July-June), totaling only about 4,620,000 bushels, were the smallest since the World War. In 1936-37, they amounted to 7,786,000 bushels and averaged 19,491,000 bushels during 1931-32 to 1935-36. The 1937 wheat crop was estimated at 50,410,000 bushels as compared with 45,192,000 in 1936, while the 5-year average, 1931-1935, was 40,372,000 bushels. The 1938 crop has been estimated at 50,644,000 bushels, but unfavorable weather during the harvesting season is reported to have damaged the grain to some extent.

JAPAN: Imports of wheat by countries of origin and total exports of flour, June 1938, with comparisons				
Country and item	June 1937	June 1938	July-June 1936-37	July-June 1937-38
	: 1,000 bushels	: 1,000 bushels	: 1,000 bushels	: 1,000 bushels
Imports of wheat :	:	:	:	:
United States... :	-- :	- :	129 :	42 :
Canada..... :	38 :	- :	2,471 :	689 :
Australia..... :	337 :	686 :	2,722 :	2,437 :
Argentina..... :	18 :	- :	462 :	128 :
China..... :	2 :	- :	753 :	6 :
Manchuria..... :) :) :) :) :
Others..... :	64 :	37 :	1,249 :	1,318 :
Total..... :	459 :	723 :	7,786 :	4,620 :
	: 1,000 barrels	: 1,000 barrels	: 1,000 barrels	: 1,000 barrels
Exports of flour :	65 :	306 :	985 :	2,949 :

Shanghai office, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Purchase of foreign wheat by Japan is still dependent upon exchange control, but Western White wheat on August 1 was the cheapest overseas wheat quoted at Tokyo, according to United States Consul General C. R. Cameron's monthly report. Prices of foreign wheat were generally lower than on July 1, but domestic wheat was higher. Mills were operating at their normal capacity, and their wheat stocks appeared about average. Wheat at the mill on August 1 was quoted as follows, duty and landing charges included; Western White No. 2, \$1.16 per bushel; Canadian No. 1 (new crop for November shipment), \$1.29, No. 3, \$1.23; Australian (nominal) \$1.31 per bushel. Domestic standard was \$1.35 per bushel and Portland wheat, c.i.f. Yokohama, \$0.81, duty and landing charges excluded. The wholesale price of flour, at the mill and c.i.f. Tangku, was \$1.41 per bag of 49 pounds; c.i.f. Dairen, \$1.45.

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Increased activity in Chinese wheat market

The Shanghai wheat and flour market was more active during the month ended August 15 than in the preceding month, it was reported by the Shanghai office of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. No change has been reported in the preliminary estimate of the 1938 Chinese wheat crop, placed by the Shanghai office at 640,000,000 bushels, or the same as the poor harvest of 1937. Arrivals of new-crop domestic wheat at Shanghai, mostly from neighboring areas, were estimated at nearly 50,000 bushels a day during the month. Although the mills, because of the military situation, were operating on a day-to-day basis, they ran at about 40-percent capacity as compared with 30 percent in the previous month. Flour sales to North China increased, and small quantities were shipped to southern ports, but no shipments were made to the Yangtze Valley. Stocks of wheat at Shanghai on August 15 were placed at about 444,000 bushels and flour stocks at 250,000 bags, but there was no apparent tendency to accumulate either wheat or flour. Foreign wheat was not in demand, and no prices were quoted. Domestic wheat on August 15 was 53 cents per bushel, and flour was 74 cents per bag of 49 pounds. Australian flour, c.i.f. Hong Kong, was \$3.41 per barrel of 196 pounds.

Taiwan pineapple-production increase planned

The Government General of Taiwan has announced a 5-year plan to improve the quality of pineapples and to increase the production from the present output of 1.3 million cases of canned pineapple to a total of over 2 million cases by 1942, according to a report by American Vice Consul William E. Yuni, Taihoku. It is anticipated that during the next 5 years the domestic demand for canned pineapple will increase and that it will also be possible to increase the quantity exported to foreign markets.

The plan, as announced, will be carried out through the cooperation of the Government General of Taiwan, the Provincial governments, and the Taiwan Amalgamated Pineapple Company. To improve the quality of the pineapples, it is expected that these organizations will attempt, in localities of inferior and defective plants, to replace them by better and more suitable seedlings, which will be produced in nurseries in Taiwan. The plan calls for increasing the present acreage from 3,382 to 4,179 acres by 1942.

In 1938, it is planned to produce 900,000 cases for the domestic market (Taiwan and other parts of the Japanese Empire) and 530,000 cases for the foreign market. In 1942, it is expected to have a pack of 1,197,000 cases for the domestic market and 860,000 for the foreign market.

1938 European filbert production low

The preliminary forecast, as of July 1, of the European filbert crop for 1938 is placed at 96,000 short tons, unshelled basis, compared with estimated production of 128,400 tons in 1937 and the 8-year average 1929-1936

of 98,600 tons, according to a report received from Assistant Agricultural Attaché Walter R. Schreiber at Paris. Although the 1938 production is low in all three principal producing countries of Turkey, Spain, and Italy, the greatest decrease in production has taken place in Turkey.

FILBERTS: Estimated production in specified European countries, unshelled basis, 1929-1938

	Italy	Spain	Turkey	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
1929.....	10,000	39,400	10,600	60,000
1930.....	17,000	10,500	66,000	93,500
1931.....	26,000	24,000	37,000	87,000
1932.....	40,000	35,000	56,000	131,000
1933.....	5,500	14,000	54,000	73,500
1934.....	26,000	38,000	35,500	99,500
1935.....	18,000	24,000	71,000	113,000
1936.....	37,000	26,000	68,000	131,000
1937 a/.....	26,000	32,000	70,400	128,400
1938 b/.....	23,000	28,000	45,000	96,000
Average 1929-1937.....	22,438	26,362	49,762	98,562

a/ Preliminary estimate. b/ Preliminary forecast.

While complete data are not available, combined filbert exports from Italy, Spain, and Turkey in 1937-38 to the end of May are believed to have amounted to about 81,000 short tons, unshelled basis, as compared with 97,000 tons for the same period in 1936-37. The principal decrease took place in exports from Italy and Spain, while exports from Turkey increased.

FILBERTS: Exports from specified European countries, unshelled basis, 1937-38 with comparisons

Period	Italy	Spain	Turkey	Total
	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons	Short tons
Average 1929-30 to 1936-37...	19,492	18,100	47,653	85,245
Year 1936-37.....	34,266	a/ 9,800	a/ 63,800	107,866
September-May:				
1936-37.....	33,648	a/ 6,100	57,600	97,348
1937-38.....	16,360	a/ 2,300	a/ 62,500	81,160

Shelling ratio: Italy and Spain, 2.2 to 1; Turkey, 2.5 to 1.

a/ Estimated.

Filbert stocks on hand toward the end of the 1937-38 season are reported to be very heavy in Italy, whereas those of Turkey are expected to be completely cleaned up before the new crop comes to market. Very little is known with regard to stocks in Spain.

FINLAND: Acreage and production of specified crops,
1932-1938

Year	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats	Potatoes
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres
<u>Acreage</u>					
1932.....	59	538	308	1,124	190
1933.....	91	575	320	1,130	199
1934.....	125	609	325	1,173	206
1935.....	174	598	315	1,164	204
1936.....	208	575	320	1,111	215
1937.....	279	597	299	1,125	214
1938.....	291	607	301	1,144	226
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
<u>Production</u>					
1932.....	1,483	12,966	8,218	46,122	36,133
1933.....	2,460	14,672	8,200	43,782	47,096
1934.....	3,280	15,544	9,583	53,485	41,865
1935.....	4,233	13,760	7,621	41,950	46,629
1936.....	5,259	12,135	8,506	47,707	52,649
1937.....	7,665	16,982	8,082	49,915	50,979
1938.....	7,643	14,054	8,543	54,357	56,658

International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, and official sources.

YUGOSLAVIA: Production of specified grains, 1932-1938

Year	Wheat	Rye	Barley	Oats
	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels	1,000 bushels
1932.....	53,444	8,328	17,982	18,548
1933.....	96,582	9,659	21,267	25,563
1934.....	68,328	7,688	18,828	22,971
1935.....	73,100	7,719	17,248	19,144
1936.....	107,422	8,002	19,421	22,942
1937.....	86,253	8,239	17,582	20,516
1938.....	100,897	9,055	18,969	22,115

International Institute of Agriculture, Rome, and official sources.

COTTON: Price per pound of representative raw cotton at Liverpool,
August 19, 1938, with comparisons

Growth	1938							
	July					August		
	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
American -								
Middling.....	10.24	10.63	10.03	10.37	10.21	9.97	9.70	9.71
Low Middling.....	8.90	9.28	8.69	9.04	8.88	8.64	8.38	8.39
Egyptian (Fully Good Fair) -								
Sakellaridis.....	15.59	16.43	15.93	16.29	16.19	16.04	15.65	15.75
Uppers.....	12.35	12.70	12.23	12.75	12.61	12.46	12.22	12.27
Brazilian (Fair) -								
Ceara.....	9.31	9.69	9.72	9.45	9.29	9.05	8.79	8.80
Sao Paulo.....	9.93	10.31	9.10	10.06	9.91	9.66	9.40	9.41
East Indian -								
Broach (Fully Good).....	8.07	8.27	7.81	8.16	7.96	8.03	7.69	7.66
C.P. Oomra No. 1, Superfine	8.53	8.73	8.26	8.61	8.41	8.34	7.94	7.91
Sind (Fully Good).....	6.90	7.10	6.88	7.46	7.27	7.30	6.90	7.09
Peruvian (Good) -								
Tanguis	13.75	14.12	13.52	13.86	13.69	13.44	13.16	

Converted at current exchange rates.

UNITED STATES: Exports of cotton to principal foreign markets,
annual 1936-37 and 1937-38, and the seasons
August 1-August 18, 1937 and 1938 a/
(Running bales)

Country to which exported	Year ended July 31		August 1-August 18	
	1936-37	1937-38	1937	1938
	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
United Kingdom	1,221	1,630	28	22
Continental Europe.....	2,594	3,047	99	69
Total Europe.....	3,815	4,677	127	91
Japan.....	1,593	728	8	40
Other countries.....	380	541	8	15
Total.....	5,788	5,946	143	146
Linters.....	277	270	13	10
Total excluding linters:	5,511	5,676	130	136

Compiled from the Weekly Stock and Movement Report, New York Cotton Exchange.
a/ Includes linters.

BUTTER: New Zealand grading, 1938-39 season to August 13,
with comparisons

Date	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
<u>Week ended</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
August 1-May 28.....	310,498	327,314	302,540
June 4.....	1,456	1,792	1,708
11.....	1,120	1,120	1,176
18.....	1,008	952	896
25.....	224	728	616
Monthly total.....	3,808	4,592	4,396
July 2.....	560	644	543
9.....	616	672	498
16.....	616	700	549
23.....	1,064	879	706
30.....	1,361	644	1,025
Monthly total.....	4,217	3,539	3,321
Total for season.....	318,523	335,445	310,257
	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
August 6.....	2,016	1,792	1,708
13.....	2,811	2,688	2,072

Agricultural Attaché C.C. Taylor, London.

BUTTER: Australian grading, 1938-39 season to July 30,
with comparisons

Date	1935-36	1936-37	1937-38
<u>Week ended</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
July 1-April 10.....	208,667	170,204	195,284
May 7.....	1,557	2,554	2,975
14.....	1,308	1,452	2,112
21.....	970	1,496	1,611
28.....	892	1,555	2,652
Monthly total.....	4,727	7,057	9,350
June 4.....	1,201	1,205	2,228
11.....	1,057	898	1,476
18.....	1,290	1,245	2,070
25.....	851	914	1,595
Monthly total.....	4,399	4,262	7,369
July 2.....	488	786	1,496
Total for season.....	218,281	182,309	213,499
	1936-37	1937-38	1938-39
July 9.....	502	811	2,197
16.....	506	896	1,649
23.....	598	900	1,420
30.....	764	793	1,602
Monthly total.....	2,370	3,400	6,868

Weekly Dairy Produce Notes, Imperial Economic Committee, London.

BUTTER: Price per pound in New York, San Francisco, Copenhagen, and London, August 18, 1938, with comparisons

Market and description	August 19, 1937	August 11, 1938	August 18, 1938
	Cents	Cents	Cents
New York, 92 score.....	33.5	26.2	26.2
San Francisco, 92 score.....	34.5	26.5	27.0
Copenhagen, official quotation	22.5	22.1	22.9
London:			
Danish.....	28.0	27.5	28.4
New Zealand.....	25.5	26.3	26.1
Netherland.....	24.0	23.7	23.9

Foreign prices converted at current rates of exchange.

LIVESTOCK AND MEAT: Price per 100 pounds in specified European markets, August 17, 1938, with comparisons a/

Market and item	Week ended		
	August 18, 1937	August 10, 1938	August 17, 1938
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Germany:			
Price of hogs, Berlin.....	18.42	18.45	18.45
Price of lard, tcs., Hamburg:	12.91	9.83	9.42
United Kingdom: b/			
Prices at Liverpool, first			
quality -			
American green bellies....	Nominal	14.71	14.69
Danish Wiltshire sides....	23.19	22.45	22.24
Canadian green sides.....	22.15	21.37	20.74
American short cut green			
hams.....	24.52	21.54	21.23
American refined lard.....	14.86	10.17	9.92

Liverpool quotations are on the basis of sales from importer to wholesaler.

a/ Converted at current rate of exchange.

b/ Week ended Friday.

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